

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (ORIGINAL) A method for modifying contractility of the heart of a patient, comprising:

receiving signals from a sensor coupled to the body of the patient indicative of physiological activity;

analyzing the signals to derive a measure of the physiological activity; and

applying excitable tissue control (ETC) stimulation to the heart so as to enhance contractility of the heart muscle responsive to the measure,

wherein applying the stimulation comprises assessing the measure so as to determine in which of a plurality of predetermined ranges the measure falls, and varying the application of the ETC stimulation dependent on the range,

wherein assessing the measure comprises associating one or more of the ranges with respective types of physical activity undertaken by the patient, and wherein varying the application comprises adapting the stimulation to a demand level associated with the physical activity, and

wherein adapting the stimulation comprises increasing the stimulation responsive to an increasing demand level.

Claims 2-27 (CANCELLED)